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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **CILAG AG** [CH/CH]; Hochstrasse 207, CH-8205 Schaffhausen (CH).
- (72) Inventors; and
(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **STRONG, BRIAN** [GB/CH]; Ledergasse 16, 8232 MERISHAUSEN (CH). **KLOEMKES, Martin** [DE/CH]; Einsiedlerstrasse 159, CH-8810 Horgen (CH). **BACHMANN, Dieter** [DE/CH]; Dorfstrasse 5, CH-8234 Stetten (CH).
- (74) Agent: **WANTE, Dirk**; Johnson & Johnson NCB, European Patent Group, Lenneke Marelaan 6, B-1932 Sint-Stevens-Woluwe (BE).
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(54) Title: SPHERICAL PELLETT CONTAINING A WATER-SOLUBLE ACTIVE INGREDIENT

(57) Abstract: A process for preparing spherical pellets comprising (a) a water-soluble active ingredient soluble, freely soluble or very soluble in water; and in particular having a water-solubility of ≥ 0.5 g/ml; (b) a spheronizing agent; (c) a dry lubricant, said method comprising preparing a mixture of the active ingredient, the spheronising agent, the dry lubricant; and an amount of water which is less than 5%, w/w relative to the total weight of the mixture; extruding said mixture to obtain an extrudate; and spheronising the extrudate to form spherical pellets. The invention further concerns pellets obtained by this process and sustained release oral dosage forms containing said pellets.



WO 2004/002398 A3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61K9/16 A61K31/135 A61K9/50

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EP0-Internal, WPI Data, BIOSIS, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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Y	the whole document	1, 2, 6, 8
X	EP 1 020 181 A (GRUENENTHAL GMBH) 19 July 2000 (2000-07-19) * '0005!-'0023!; Beispiele 1-4; claims 1-7 *	3, 4, 7-12
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A	EP 0 624 366 A (EURO CELTIQUE SA) 17 November 1994 (1994-11-17) cited in the application * p.1, 1.1-21; Tables 1-5; p.4, 1.35-39; p.4, 1.49-p.5, 1.3; p.5, 1.9-43; claims 13-15 *	1-12

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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

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